

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoel Wazana, et al.

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Serial No.:

10/660,918

Art Unit No.: 2852 (Expected)

Filing Date: September 13, 2003

For:

REMANUFACTURED TONER

**CARTRIDGE HAVING MODIFIED** 

**ROLLER SECTION** 

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. § 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

(X) deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents

PO BOX 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

( ) transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

#### 1. **Preliminary Statements**

Applicants submit herewith a copy of each of the patents and publications of which Applicants are aware, as listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08 which Applicants believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. It is to be noted that the seven patents and one published application for patent submitted herewith are submitted concurrently with Applicants' Petition to Make Special under M.P.E.P § 708.02, VIII.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R.§ 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (a) exists. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) within three months of the filing date of a national application.

### 2. Discussion of the References

Each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 is directed to some aspects of a remanufactured toner cartridge assembly having a modified roller.

# <u>U.S. Patent No. 5,115,275 for a Developing Unit for an Image Recording</u> <u>Apparatus</u>

U.S. Patent No. 5,115,275 ("'275") discloses a developing unit for an image recording apparatus (e.g. printer). The '275 developing unit is adapted to be prevented from being loaded into the recording apparatus when it has reached the end of its life-cycle. A metering blade is mentioned as part of the functional components of the developing unit in Figs. 9-10, (col. 5, line 40-64). A doctor blade is mentioned as part of the functional components of the developing unit in Figs. 21, 24, 25, 26, and 28 (col. 7, line 53 to col. 9, line 15). However, in contrast to the claimed invention, there is no teaching on how the doctor and/or metering blade can be re-used in a remanufactured toner cartridge.

# U.S. Patent No. 6,141,514 for a Component Reusing System, Product Capable of Being Easily Disassembled, and Disassembling Method

U.S. Patent No. 6,141,514 ("'514") discloses a process cartridge that is provided with a plurality of functional units that can be easily disassembled so as to be recycled. The '514 invention is directed at making a process cartridge that can be easily disassembled so as to ease the reuse and recycling process. Figs. 1-17 are directed toward a system and method for disassembly. Figs. 18-22 disclose a housing unit with a roller

section, with Figs. 23-24 specifically directed toward a process cartridge that can be disassembled (col. 20, lines15-60). In contrast to the claimed invention, there is no teaching on doctor/wiper blade and how each blade can be re-used in a remanufactured toner cartridge.

# U.S. Patent No. 6,301,461 for a Doctor Blade, Toner Cartridge Using such a Doctor Blade and Copying Process

U.S. Patent No. 6,301,461 ("'461 patent") discloses a doctor blade that consists of at least a substrate provided with an element having a face adapted for working with a magnetic roller, wherein the element is made at least partly of an elastic material and the face has an electrical surface resistivity of less than 9.9  $10^{14} \Omega$  per square and a thickness of at least 100  $\mu$ m.

The '461 patent is directed toward a doctor blade that has various embodiments of an elastic element attached to its face. Figs. 1-15 are directed toward a new doctor blade (col. 7, line 68 to col. 10, line 28). The '461 patent begins discussion for reconditioning a doctor blade on col. 10, line 29-49 (Figs. 16 and 17). It teaches a reconditioning process including a treatment that is applied to the used doctor blade. This treatment is combined with or followed by a bending of the blade in a certain direction (col. 10, line 33-40). It also teaches the placement of a strip on the face of the doctor blade (col. 10, line 50-53). In contrast to

the present invention, it does not utilize "an unworn area" for the purpose of reuse. The '461 patent process incurs the additional costs of having to apply an additional strip on the face on the doctor blade in the remanufacturing process, whereas the present invention requires no such strip or other treatment.

## U.S. Patent No. 6,484,001 for a Process for Recycling a Toner Cartridge

U.S. Patent No. 6,484,001 ("'001") discloses a process for recycling a toner cartridge, including a used magnetic roller and a used doctor blade. In particular, the '001 process involves a treatment of the doctor blade to restore the shape of the doctor blade. The treatment comprises of coating the doctor blade with an anti-static and anti-abrasive coating, as well as an optional heat and pressure treatment (col. 4, lines 18-55). '001 describes in detail a coating apparatus (Figs. 1-4) and its related support system (Figs. 5-9). Again, in contrast to the present invention, there is no mention of utilizing the "unworn area" of the doctor blade. The extensive process of '001 patent incurs the additional costs of having to apply coating on the face on the doctor blade and subject it to heat and pressure treatment in the remanufacturing process, whereas the present invention requires no such treatment.

# U.S. Patent No. 6,577,830 for a Reassembled Toner Cartridge and Method of Manufacture

U.S. Patent No. 6,577,830 ("'830") discloses a reassembled toner cartridge and method of manufacture in which a reassembled toner cartridge is resealed by simultaneous ultrasonic welding at multiple locations. The '830 patent is invented by a common inventor and has a common assignee as the present application.

### U.S. Patent No. 6,587,657 for a Sealing Member for Toner Assembly

U.S. Patent No. 6,587,657 ("'657") discloses a method and apparatus in which parts of toner cartridge are attached by means of hot-melt means, so that the reconditioning of the toner cartridge is facilitated. It is directed at sealing means for assembling the toner container (col. 2, line 30-col. 9, line 14). However, the '657 patent does not disclose a method for reconditioning doctor/wiper blade nor a remanufactured laser toner cartridge having a modified roller section comprising such a doctor/wiper blade.

U.S. Patent No. 6,684,039 for a Reassembled Process Cartridge and Method of Manufacture

U.S. Patent No. 6,684,039 ("'039") discloses a reassembled toner cartridge and method of manufacture in which a reassembled process cartridge is resealed by ultrasonic welding without the use of replacement energy director elements. The '039 patent is invented by a common inventor and has a common assignee as the present application.

# U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0026706 for a Sealing Member for Toner

## **Assembly**

U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0026706 issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,587,657 ("'657") (discussed above) and has identical specification and drawings as the '657 patent.

### 3. Fees

No fees are believed to be outstanding pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) for filing the information disclosure statement submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Jense 23, 2004

Brian F. Drazich Reg. No. 41,718

Attorney for Applicant

COUDERT BROTHERS, LLP

# PATENT 21101-0007

333 South Hope Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor Los Angeles, California 90071

Tel: (213) 229-2900 Fax: (213) 229-2999

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE to Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

PATEMP

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known		
Application Number	10/660,918	
Filing Date	September 13, 2003	-
First Named Inventor	Yoel Wazana	•
Art Unit	TBD	
Examiner Name	TBD	_
Attorney Docket Number	21101-0007	

Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*	No.1	Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (# known)</sup>	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,115,275	05-19-1992	Suzuki	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,141,514	10-31-2000	Inaba et al.	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,301,461 B1	10-09-2001	Sirejacob	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,484,001 B1	11-19-2002	Sirejacob	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,577,830 B1	06-10-2003	Wazana et al.	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,587,657 B1	07-01-2003	Sirejacob	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,684,039 B1	01-27-2004	Wazana et al.	Entire Document
		<sup>US-</sup> 2001/0026706 A1	10-04-2001	Sirejacob	Entire Document
		US-			
		US-			
		US-		· ·	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	Cite No.1	te Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages			
		Country Code <sup>3 -</sup> Number <sup>4 -</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T		
					<u> </u>	┡		
	_					┡		
						┢		
						-		

Examiner Date	
Signature Considered	
Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.